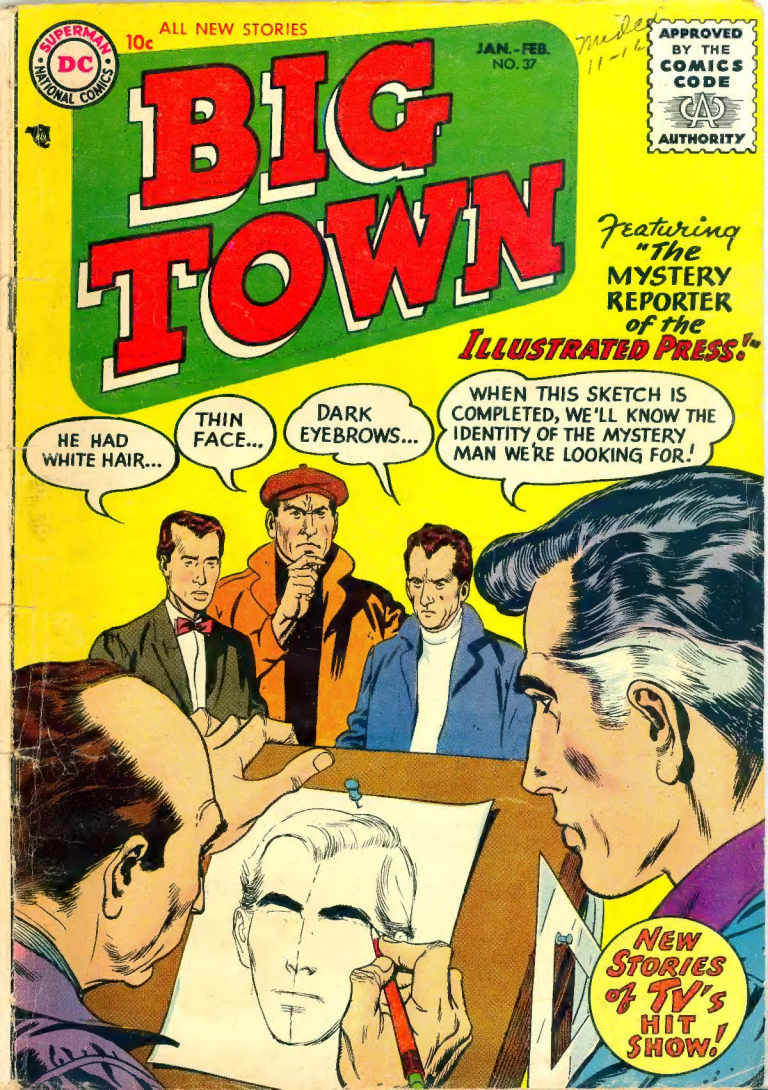

SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
10c
ALL NEW STORIES
JAN.-FEB.
NO. 37
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
BIG TOWN
Featuring "The MYSTERY REPORTER of the ILLUSTRATED PRESS!"
HE HAD WHITE HAIR...
THIN FACE...
DARK EYEBROWS...
WHEN THIS SKETCH IS COMPLETED, WE'LL KNOW THE IDENTITY OF THE MYSTERY MAN WE'RE LOOKING FOR!
NEW STORIES of TV's HIT SHOW!

Come on, Buddy, Quit being A BAG-of-BONES Weakling like I was

IN 10 MINUTES OF FUN A DAY YOU Can do ALL I did!

I gained 25 Terrific LBS. of HANDSOME POWER-PACKED MUSCLES all over!
I improved my HE-MAN LOOKS 1000%
I won NEW STRENGTH for money-making work! for WINNING at all SPORTS!
I won NEW POPULARITY Won NEW FRIENDS, BOYS & GIRLS NEW CHANCES for BUSINESS SUCCESS

Hi Pal! Win $100 as I just did!

BEFORE

"I'm PROUD to be seen with Jim NOW! Everybody admires his build," says Nellie. "Jim can lift the front of a 2700 lb. car. He amazes his friends!"

You'll be A Real ATHLETE in ALL SPORTS Soon after YOU mail Coupon.

Jim is a WINNER in ALL SPORTS NOW. YOU will be, too, soon.

How did I do ALL This? I mailed the Coupon and got These 5 PICTURE PACKED HE-MAN COURSES Which YOU can NOW get FREE

AFFORE $1 PRICE GOES BACK
Millions Sold for $1

GET ALL 5 FREE

I Added 60 lbs. of muscles, says John Sill
HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY CHEST By GEORGE F. JOWETT
1
"I added 7 inches to my CHEST 3 inches to each ARM," says Jobie Jackson
2
HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY ARM By GEORGE F. JOWETT
3
HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY BACK By GEORGE F. JOWETT
4
HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY GRIP By GEORGE F. JOWETT
5
HOW TO MOLD MIGHTY LEGS By GEORGE F. JOWETT

YOU CAN WIN a BIG 15" SILVER CUP as I just did! with YOUR" NAME engraved on it!.

JIM NORMAN

AFTER

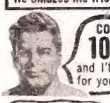
He Mailed Coupon Below is Cleveland

BEFORE

He Mailed Coupon

90 lb. Skeleton

He says, I gained 70 lbs. of mighty muscle



COME ON, PAL, NOW YOU give me 10 PLEASANT MINUTES A DAY IN YOUR OWN HOME like Jim did and I'll give YOU A NEW HE-MAN BODY for your OLD SKELETON FRAME

"Congratulations, John! At last you mailed the coupon as EVERY MAN should. Soon You'll be as big and strong as I am," says Jim Norman to John Luckus

NO! I don't care how skinny or flabby you are I'll make you OVER by the SAME method I turned myself from a wreck to the strongest of the strong. Why can't I do for you what I did for MANY THOUSANDS of skinny fellows like You?

Develop YOUR 520 MUSCLES Gain Pounds, INCHES FAST!

YES! You'll see INCHES of MIGHTY MUSCLE added to your ARMS and CHEST. Your BACK and SHOULDERS broadened. From head to heels you'll gain SIZE, POWER, SPEED. You'll be A WINNER in EVERYTHING you tackle.

Mail the "ALL FREE" coupon get this "AMAZING SECRETS" Photo Book

You'll LOOK, FEEL, ACT, like A Real HE-MAN! Win Women and Men Friends. Win in Sports! Win Promotion, Praise, Popularity.

This BOOK will also show You HOW YOU CAN WIN $100.00 and a BIG 15" tall SILVER TROPHY (Your Name On It)

LAST CHANCE - ALL FREE COUPON

1. FIVE COURSES 2. MUSCLE METER 3. Photo Book of STRONG MEN

Dept. NC61

Tell Me How To WIN $100. etc.

"Jowett Courses greatest in World for Building All Around he-MEN" — P. V. Kelley Physical Director

JOWETT INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL TRAINING
320 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

Dear George: Please mail to me FREE Jowett's Photo Book of Strong Men and a Muscle Meter, plus all 5 HE-MAN Building Courses: 1. How to Build a Mighty Chest. 2 How to Build a Mighty Arm. 3. How to Build a Mighty Back. 4. How to Build a Mighty Grip. 5. How to Build Mighty Legs How all in One Volume "How to become a Mighty HE-MAN." ENCLOSED FIND 10c FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING (no C.O.D.'s)

NAME _____ AGE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

SAVES you YEARS and DOLLARS!!!

Mail Coupon in Time for FREE offer and PRIZES!

BIG TOWN

CAN DARING SPORTSMAN "STREAK" SAUNDERS BE THE SAME MAN AS CHARLES EWELL--THE MEEK AND TIMID EMBEZZLER WHO VANISHED ?
CHARLES EWELL
"STREAK" SAUNDERS

"STREAK" SAUNDERS APPEARED IN ***BIG TOWN*** WITH THE EFFECT OF AN ATOMIC SHELL-BURST--AND HIS AMAZING STUNTS WON HIM FRONT-PAGE SPACE IN ALL OF ***BIG TOWN'S*** NEWSPAPERS, INCLUDING THE ***ILLUSTRATED PRESS !*** BUT WHAT WAS HIS GAME ? DID HE HAVE ANYTHING TO HIDE ? IF SO, WHY WAS HE DRAWING ATTENTION TO HIMSELF IN SUCH A SENSATIONAL MANNER ? THIS WAS JUST ONE OF THE TANTALIZING MYSTERIES THAT PUZZLED VETERAN NEWSHAWK BILL DAMON, AS HE SOUGHT TO UNCOVER ...

The SECRET LIFE of "STREAK" SAUNDERS!

BIG TOWN, No. 37, Jan.-Feb., 1956. Published bi-monthly by NATIONAL COMICS PUBLICATIONS, INC., 2nd and DICKEY STREETS, SPARTA, ILL. Editorial and Executive offices, 480 Lexington Ave., New York 17, N. Y. Whitney Ellsworth, Editor. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co., 205 E. 42nd St., New York 17, N. Y. Entire contents copyrighted 1955 by National Comics Publications, Inc. Except for those who have authorized use of their names, the stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this periodical are entirely imaginary and fictitious, and no identification with actual persons, living or dead, is intended or should be inferred.
Printed in U.S.A.

A MEMO ON THE BULLETIN BOARD OF THE *ILLUSTRATED PRESS* DRAWS THE ATTENTION OF REPORTERS...

MEMO TO ALL REPORTERS! SUBJECT: *PUBLICITY STUNTS!*

STEVE WILSON'S WARNING US TO BE ON OUR GUARD AGAINST PUBLICITY SEEKERS--WHO GIVE US NEWS HAND-OUTS JUST TO GET THEIR NAMES IN THE PAPER!

AS BILL DAMON, VETERAN REPORTER, GOES TO HIS DESK...

I WONDER IF STEVE MEANT TO WARN **ME** IN PARTICULAR BY THAT MEMO? FOR A COUPLE OF WEEKS NOW I'VE BEEN DOING STORIES ON LARRY "STREAK" SAUNDERS, SOCIETY'S NEW PLAYBOY SENSATION...

"'STREAK' SAUNDERS HAS BEEN **NEWS** EVER SINCE THAT EXCITING DAY HE FLASHED LIKE A COMET OVER **BIG TOWN**..."

A PARACHUTIST!

COMING DOWN IN THE MIDDLE OF **BIG TOWN**!

"NATURALLY, WE REPORTERS FLOCKED AROUND THE NEWCOMER, AND FIRED QUESTIONS AT HIM..."

WHEN MY PRIVATE JET-PLANE CONKED OUT, I HAD TO DITCH IT AND JUMP, BOYS! WHEN "STREAK" SAUNDERS MAKES UP HIS MIND--HE DOESN'T HESITATE!

PRIVATE JET-PLANE? WOW!

"AFTER THE INTERVIEW, WE REPORTERS SCATTERED IN ALL DIRECTIONS TO RUSH BACK TO OUR PAPERS..."

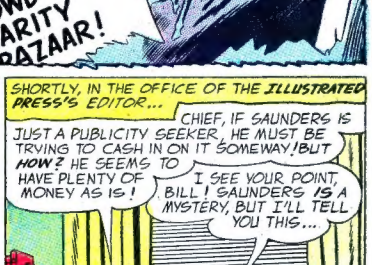
THIS IS GOING TO MAKE A TERRIFIC STORY!

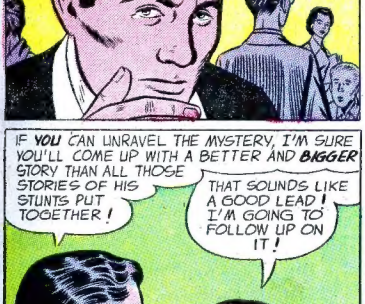
I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO MY TYPEWRITER!

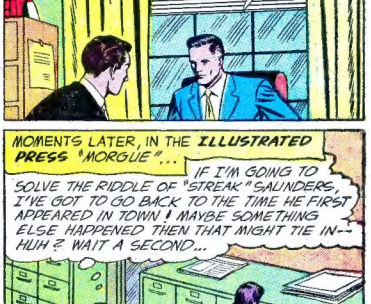
GOOD HEADLINE COPY!

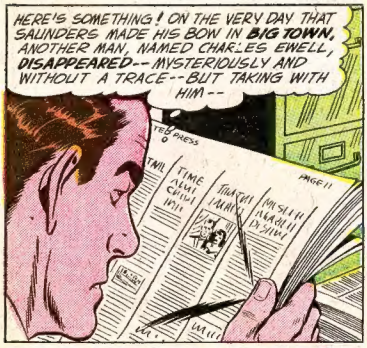
AS THE DAYS WENT BY, 'STREAK' SAUNDERS MADE THE HEADLINES MORE AND MORE IN BIG TOWN'S NEWSPAPERS...
SAUNDERS STREAKS TO SPEEDBOAT RECORD!
SAUNDERS ELECTRIFIES CROWD AT CHARITY BAZAAR!
'STREAK' SAUNDER WINS HORSE SHOW PRIZE!!

--AND NOW, THIS AFTERNOON, I HAVE AN APPOINTMENT FOR A PERSONAL INTERVIEW WITH SAUNDERS AT HIS APARTMENT! BUT BEFORE I GO THERE, I OUGHT TO GET ONE THING STRAIGHT--AND I GUESS I'D BETTER SEE STEVE ABOUT IT...

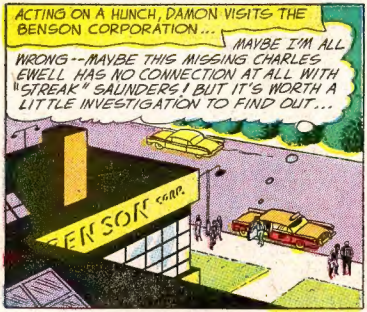

SHORTLY, IN THE OFFICE OF THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS'S EDITOR...
CHIEF, IF SAUNDERS IS JUST A PUBLICITY SEEKER, HE MUST BE TRYING TO CASH IN ON IT SOMEWAY! BUT HOW? HE SEEMS TO HAVE PLENTY OF MONEY AS IS!
I SEE YOUR POINT, BILL! SAUNDERS IS A MYSTERY, BUT I'LL TELL YOU THIS...

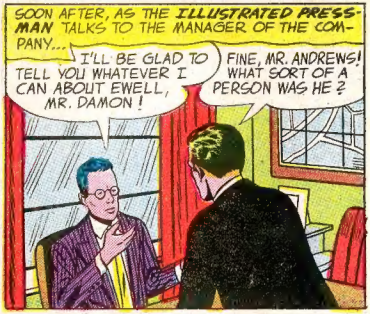

IF YOU CAN UNRAVEL THE MYSTERY, I'M SURE YOU'LL COME UP WITH A BETTER AND BIGGER STORY THAN ALL THOSE STORIES OF HIS STUNTS PUT TOGETHER!
THAT SOUNDS LIKE A GOOD LEAD! I'M GOING TO FOLLOW UP ON IT!


MOMENTS LATER, IN THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS "MORGUE"...
IF I'M GOING TO SOLVE THE RIDDLE OF "STREAK" SAUNDERS, I'VE GOT TO GO BACK TO THE TIME HE FIRST APPEARED IN TOWN! MAYBE SOMETHING ELSE HAPPENED THEN THAT MIGHT TIE IN--HUH? WAIT A SECOND...


HERE'S SOMETHING! ON THE VERY DAY THAT SAUNDERS MADE HIS BOW IN BIG TOWN, ANOTHER MAN, NAMED CHARLES EWELL, DISAPPEARED--MYSTERIOUSLY AND WITHOUT A TRACE--BUT TAKING WITH HIM--
THE PRESS
TIME
PAGE 11

--A PAYROLL OF $380,000 IN CASH FROM THE SAFE OF THE BENSON CONTRACTING CORPORATION WHERE HE HAD WORKED AS A CLERK FOR SEVERAL YEARS! HMM! I WONDER--COULD THERE BE ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN THE TWO EVENTS?


ACTING ON A HUNCH, DAMON VISITS THE BENSON CORPORATION...
MAYBE I'M ALL WRONG--MAYBE THIS MISSING CHARLES EWELL HAS NO CONNECTION AT ALL WITH "STREAK" SAUNDERS! BUT IT'S WORTH A LITTLE INVESTIGATION TO FIND OUT...
CORP.

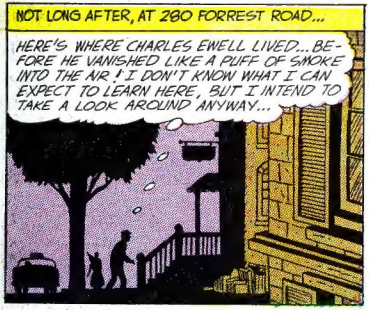

SOON AFTER, AS THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS-MAN TALKS TO THE MANAGER OF THE COMPANY...
I'LL BE GLAD TO TELL YOU WHATEVER I CAN ABOUT EWELL, MR. DAMON!
FINE, MR. ANDREWS! WHAT SORT OF A PERSON WAS HE?

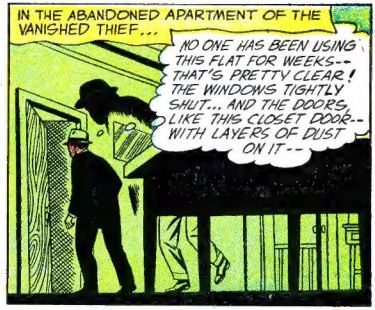
VERY TIMID, SORT OF A MOUSY CHAP! SCARED OF HIS OWN SHADOW, ALWAYS TALKED IN A LOW, TIMID VOICE! MADE NO FRIENDS...
GOSH--EXACTLY THE OPPOSITE FROM SAUNDERS!

ON THE OTHER HAND, IF EWELL WAS SAUNDERS IN A SECRET IDENTITY, THE TWO NATURALLY WOULD SEEM OPPOSITES!
ER--DO YOU HAVE ANY PICTURES OF EWELL, MR. ANDREWS?
WE DO HAVE ONE...

IT'S A PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN AT OUR EMPLOYEES' ANNUAL PICNIC! THAT'S EWELL!
IT DOESN'T LOOK TOO MUCH LIKE SAUNDERS, BUT IT COULD BE...

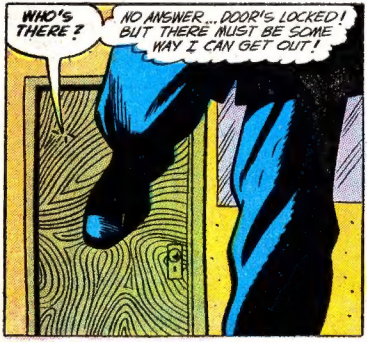
THEN, AS THE KEEN-MINDED REPORTER ASKS FOR ANOTHER BIT OF INFORMATION...
YES, EWELL'S LAST ADDRESS WAS 280 FORREST ROAD!
THANKS! YOU'VE BEEN VERY COOPERATIVE, MR. ANDREWS--AND I'LL TAKE GOOD CARE OF THIS PICTURE!
MANAGER MR. ANDREWS

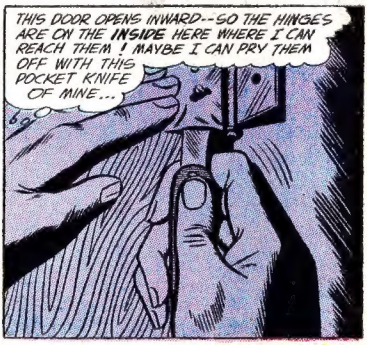

NOT LONG AFTER, AT 280 FORREST ROAD...
HERE'S WHERE CHARLES EWELL LIVED... BEFORE HE VANISHED LIKE A PUFF OF SMOKE INTO THE AIR! I DON'T KNOW WHAT I CAN EXPECT TO LEARN HERE, BUT I INTEND TO TAKE A LOOK AROUND ANYWAY...

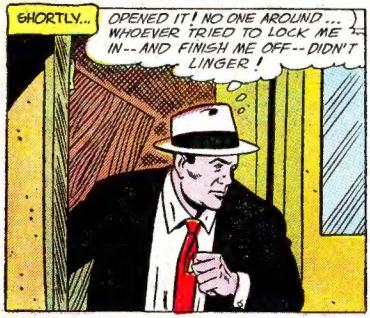

IN THE ABANDONED APARTMENT OF THE VANISHED THIEF...
NO ONE HAS BEEN USING THIS FLAT FOR WEEKS--THAT'S PRETTY CLEAR! THE WINDOWS TIGHTLY SHUT... AND THE DOORS, LIKE THIS CLOSET DOOR--WITH LAYERS OF DUST ON IT--

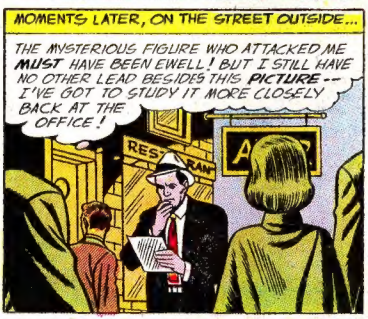
SUDDENLY, THE NEXT MOMENT...
HEY--WHAT?

AS THE CLOSET DOOR SLAMS SHUT ON THE STUNNED NEWSMAN...
SOMEONE CAUGHT ME OFF GUARD! SOMEONE WHO'S TRYING TO MAKE SURE THAT I DON'T GET OUT OF HERE!
SLAM!

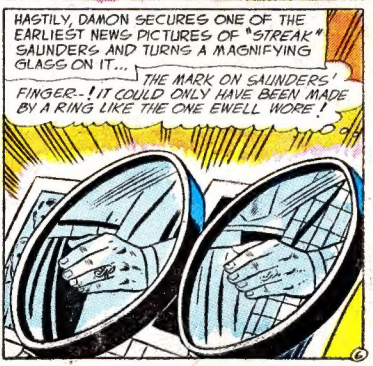

WHO'S THERE?
NO ANSWER...DOOR'S LOCKED! BUT THERE MUST BE SOME WAY I CAN GET OUT!

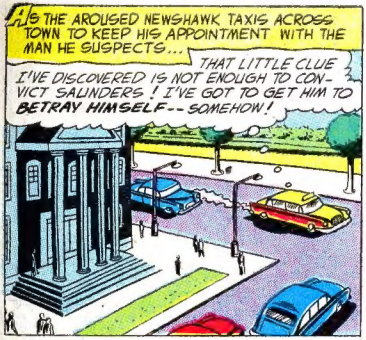

THIS DOOR OPENS INWARD--SO THE HINGES ARE ON THE INSIDE HERE WHERE I CAN REACH THEM! MAYBE I CAN PRY THEM OFF WITH THIS POCKET KNIFE OF MINE...


SHORTLY...
OPENED IT! NO ONE AROUND... WHOEVER TRIED TO LOCK ME IN--AND FINISH ME OFF--DIDN'T LINGER!

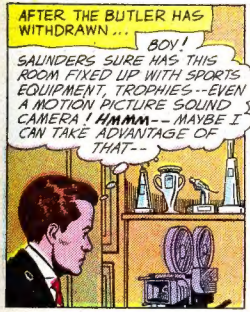

MOMENTS LATER, ON THE STREET OUTSIDE...
THE MYSTERIOUS FIGURE WHO ATTACKED ME MUST HAVE BEEN EWELL! BUT I STILL HAVE NO OTHER LEAD BESIDES THIS PICTURE--I'VE GOT TO STUDY IT MORE CLOSELY BACK AT THE OFFICE!

AT THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS AGAIN, SOON AFTER...
THERE'S SOMETHING--THAT ODD, LARGE SIGNET RING ON EWELL'S FINGER--WITH THE CURVED SHAPE! I'VE SEEN A MARK LIKE THAT SOMEWHERE RECENTLY, AND... GREAT THUNDER! I JUST REMEMBERED WHERE--!
MEMO


HASTILY, DAMON SECURES ONE OF THE EARLIEST NEWS PICTURES OF "STREAK" SAUNDERS AND TURNS A MAGNIFYING GLASS ON IT...
THE MARK ON SAUNDERS' FINGER--! IT COULD ONLY HAVE BEEN MADE BY A RING LIKE THE ONE EWELL WORE!


AS THE AROUSED NEWSHAWK TAXIS ACROSS TOWN TO KEEP HIS APPOINTMENT WITH THE MAN HE SUSPECTS...
THAT LITTLE CLUE I'VE DISCOVERED IS NOT ENOUGH TO CONVICT SAUNDERS! I'VE GOT TO GET HIM TO BETRAY HIMSELF--SOMEHOW!

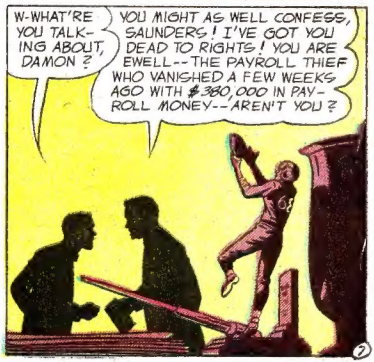
SHORTLY, AT THE SWANK AND SPACIOUS APARTMENT OF THE SOCIETY PLAYBOY...
PLEASE MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME, MR. DAMON! MR. SAUNDERS WILL BE WITH YOU IN A FEW MOMENTS...
THANKS!

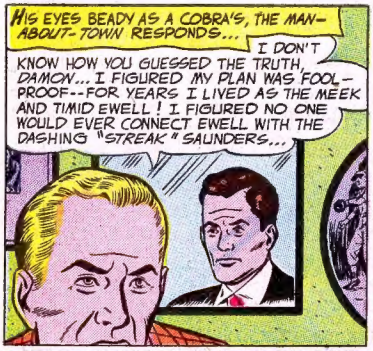

AFTER THE BUTLER HAS WITHDRAWN...
BOY! SAUNDERS SURE HAS THIS ROOM FIXED UP WITH SPORTS EQUIPMENT, TROPHIES--EVEN A MOTION PICTURE SOUND CAMERA! HMMM--MAYBE I CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THAT--

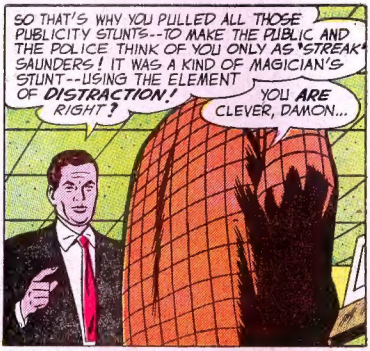
SHORTLY, AS "STREAK" SAUNDERS HIMSELF APPEARS...
HELLO, MR. DAMON! SHALL WE GET ON WITH OUR INTERVIEW?
ER--BEFORE WE DO, MR. SAUNDERS--THAT'S AN ODD MARK ON YOUR FINGER!

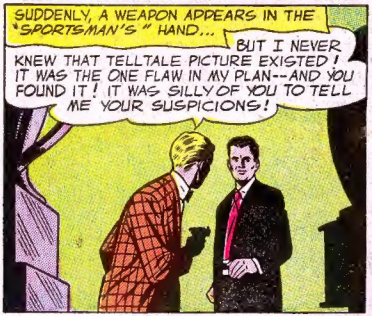
THIS? OH--ER--IT'S JUST A--A--
RINGMARK?

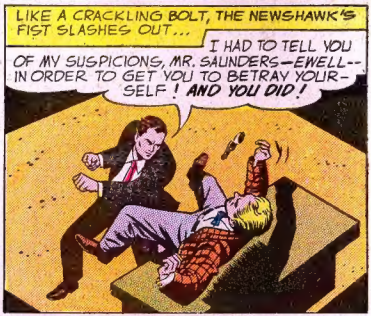
IN FACT, IT LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE THE MARK THAT WOULD BE MADE BY THE RING THAT CHARLES EWELL USED TO WEAR--AS SHOWN IN THIS PICTURE!
HUH?


W-WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT, DAMON?
YOU MIGHT AS WELL CONFESS, SAUNDERS! I'VE GOT YOU DEAD TO RIGHTS! YOU ARE EWELL--THE PAYROLL THIEF WHO VANISHED A FEW WEEKS AGO WITH $380,000 IN PAYROLL MONEY--AREN'T YOU?

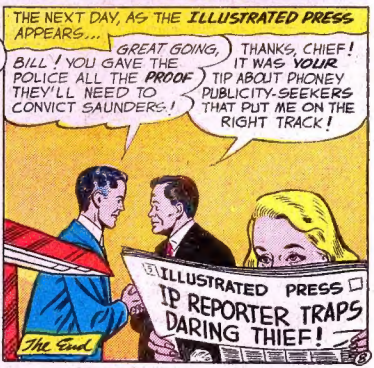

HIS EYES BEADY AS A COBRA'S, THE MAN-ABOUT-TOWN RESPONDS...
I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU GUESSED THE TRUTH, DAMON... I FIGURED MY PLAN WAS FOOL-PROOF--FOR YEARS I LIVED AS THE MEEK AND TIMID EWELL! I FIGURED NO ONE WOULD EVER CONNECT EWELL WITH THE DASHING "STREAK" SAUNDERS...


SO THAT'S WHY YOU PULLED ALL THOSE PUBLICITY STUNTS--TO MAKE THE PUBLIC AND THE POLICE THINK OF YOU ONLY AS 'STREAK' SAUNDERS! IT WAS A KIND OF MAGICIAN'S STUNT--USING THE ELEMENT OF DISTRACTION!
RIGHT?
YOU ARE CLEVER, DAMON...


SUDDENLY, A WEAPON APPEARS IN THE "SPORTSMAN'S" HAND...
BUT I NEVER KNEW THAT TELLTALE PICTURE EXISTED! IT WAS THE ONE FLAW IN MY PLAN--AND YOU FOUND IT! IT WAS SILLY OF YOU TO TELL ME YOUR SUSPICIONS!


LIKE A CRACKLING BOLT, THE NEWSHAWK'S FIST SLASHES OUT...
I HAD TO TELL YOU OF MY SUSPICIONS, MR. SAUNDERS--EWELL--IN ORDER TO GET YOU TO BETRAY YOURSELF! AND YOU DID!

LATER, AFTER THE POLICE HAVE ARRIVED...
--SO YOU HAD THIS SOUND MOVIE CAMERA ON ALL THE TIME YOU TWO WERE TALKING, DAMON?
THAT'S RIGHT, LIEUTENANT GREGGORY! I SWITCHED IT ON JUST BEFORE HE CAME INTO THE ROOM--AND FORTUNATELY HE NEVER NOTICED IT!


THE NEXT DAY, AS THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS APPEARS...
GREAT GOING, BILL! YOU GAVE THE POLICE ALL THE PROOF THEY'LL NEED TO CONVICT SAUNDERS!
THANKS, CHIEF! IT WAS YOUR TIP ABOUT PHONEY PUBLICITY-SEEKERS THAT PUT ME ON THE RIGHT TRACK!
ILLUSTRATED PRESS
IP REPORTER TRAPS DARING THIEF!
The End

Tootsie Roll

Only 5c

AMERICA'S FAVORITE CANDY

These delicious TOOTSIE ROLL Candies are only 1c each.

Tootsie Roll Pop
2 candies in one
. . Tootsie Roll on the inside . . . fruit flavored hard candy on the outside . . . only 2c

Boys and Girls
MAKE THIS A....
VISIT YOUR LOCAL DEPARTMENT, CHAIN OR TOY STORE AND SEE THE GREATEST DISPLAY OF SUPERMAN MERCHANDISE EVER!
Bradley Time Company
SUPERMAN Official MAGIC Kit
Bar Zim Mfg. Co., Inc.
SUPERMAN GOLDEN MUSCLE BUILDING Set
Peter Puppet Playthings
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Transogram Co. Inc.
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BOP BAG
Funtime Playwear
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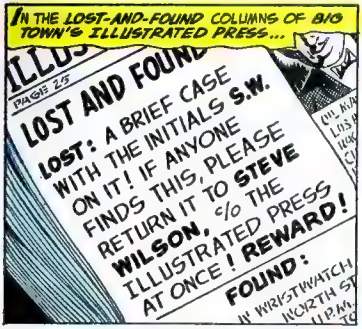
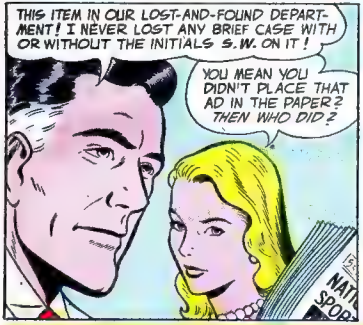
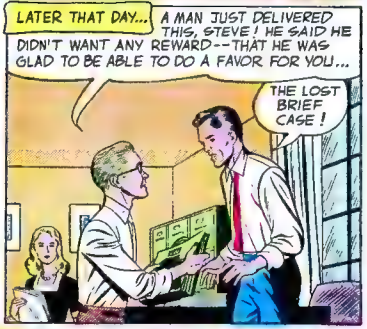
BE SURE TO WATCH THE EXCITING ADVENTURES OF
SUPERMAN
on TELEVISION

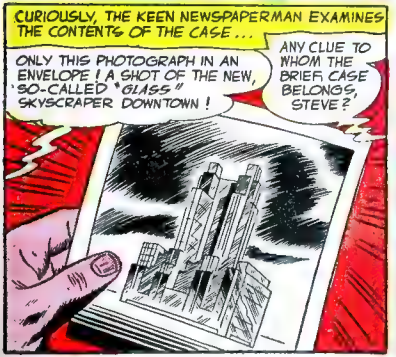
BIG TOWN
HAND OVER THAT PICTURE, WILSON-- NOW!
IF I DON'T GIVE THEM THIS PHOTO, THOSE CROOKS WILL OPEN FIRE--BUT IF I DO, THEY'LL USE THEIR GUNS ANYWAY! I'VE GOT TO OUTWIT THEM SOMEHOW--
IT WAS JUST A PHOTOGRAPH OF A NEW BUILDING--OF MODERN GLASS CONSTRUCTION--IN BIG TOWN! THERE DIDN'T SEEM TO BE ANYTHING UNUSUAL ABOUT THE SNAPSHOT--AND YET THREE RUTHLESS MEN WENT GUNNING FOR THE PICTURE IN ORDER TO PREVENT STEVE WILSON FROM SOLVING...
THE RIDDLE OF THE GLASS SKYSCRAPER!

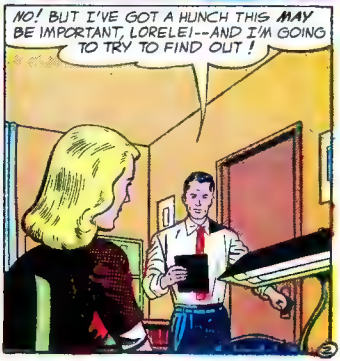

IN THE LOST-AND-FOUND COLUMNS OF BIG TOWN'S ILLUSTRATED PRESS...
PAGE 25
LOST AND FOUND
LOST: A BRIEF CASE WITH THE INITIALS S.W. ON IT! IF ANYONE FINDS THIS, PLEASE RETURN IT TO STEVE WILSON, c/o THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS AT ONCE! REWARD!
FOUND:

AS NEWSMAN STEVE WILSON PURSUES THE ITEM IN HIS OFFICE...
HMM! THIS IS ODD, LORELEI! VERY ODD!
WHAT IS, STEVE?

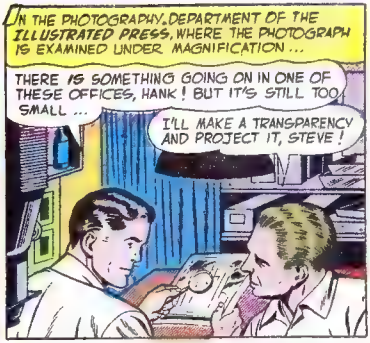

THIS ITEM IN OUR LOST-AND-FOUND DEPARTMENT! I NEVER LOST ANY BRIEF CASE WITH OR WITHOUT THE INITIALS S.W. ON IT!
YOU MEAN YOU DIDN'T PLACE THAT AD IN THE PAPER? THEN WHO DID?

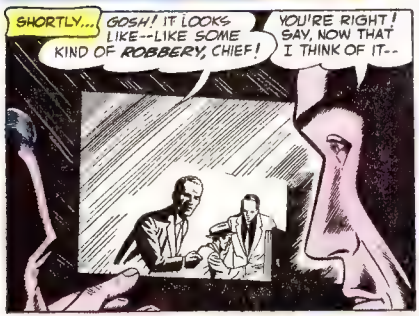

LATER THAT DAY...
A MAN JUST DELIVERED THIS, STEVE! HE SAID HE DIDN'T WANT ANY REWARD--THAT HE WAS GLAD TO BE ABLE TO DO A FAVOR FOR YOU...
THE LOST BRIEF CASE!


CURIOUSLY, THE KEEN NEWSPAPERMAN EXAMINES THE CONTENTS OF THE CASE...
ONLY THIS PHOTOGRAPH IN AN ENVELOPE! A SHOT OF THE NEW, SO-CALLED "GLASS" SKYSCRAPER DOWNTOWN!
ANY CLUE TO WHOM THE BRIEF CASE BELONGS, STEVE?


NO! BUT I'VE GOT A HUNCH THIS MAY BE IMPORTANT, LORELEI--AND I'M GOING TO TRY TO FIND OUT!

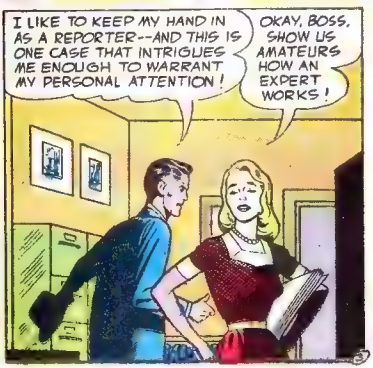
FOR SOME REASON, SOMEONE WENT TO CONSIDERABLE LENGTHS TO GET THIS PICTURE TO ME! I CAN'T IMAGINE WHY--BUT MAYBE IF I EXAMINE THIS PICTURE MORE CLOSELY I MAY GET SOME KIND OF CLUE...


IN THE PHOTOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT OF THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS, WHERE THE PHOTOGRAPH IS EXAMINED UNDER MAGNIFICATION...
THERE IS SOMETHING GOING ON IN ONE OF THESE OFFICES, HANK! BUT IT'S STILL TOO SMALL...
I'LL MAKE A TRANSPARENCY AND PROJECT IT, STEVE!

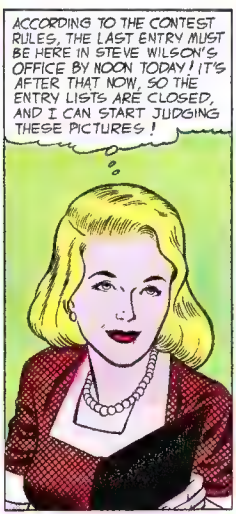

SHORTLY...
GOSH! IT LOOKS LIKE--LIKE SOME KIND OF ROBBERY, CHIEF!
YOU'RE RIGHT! SAY, NOW THAT I THINK OF IT--

THERE WAS A MYSTERIOUS ROBBERY OF $200,000 IN INDUSTRIAL DIAMONDS FROM AN OFFICE IN THE "GLASS" SKYSCRAPER TWO DAYS AGO! THIS COULD BE A PICTURE OF THAT CRIME!

WHAT'S THIS, STEVE? YOU'RE GOING TO HANDLE THIS STORY BY YOURSELF--INSTEAD OF TURNING IT OVER TO ONE OF OUR REPORTERS FOR A FOLLOW-UP?
THAT'S RIGHT, LORELE!!


I LIKE TO KEEP MY HAND IN AS A REPORTER--AND THIS IS ONE CASE THAT INTRIGUES ME ENOUGH TO WARRANT MY PERSONAL ATTENTION!
OKAY, BOSS, SHOW US AMATEURS HOW AN EXPERT WORKS!

AS LORELEI SETTLES DOWN TO ONE OF HER MANY CHORES...
I'D BETTER GET TO WORK ON THIS PRIZE-PHOTO CONTEST THAT OUR PAPER IS RUNNING--FOR THE BEST SNAPSHOTS TAKEN HERE IN BIG TOWN...


ACCORDING TO THE CONTEST RULES, THE LAST ENTRY MUST BE HERE IN STEVE WILSON'S OFFICE BY NOON TODAY! IT'S AFTER THAT NOW, SO THE ENTRY LISTS ARE CLOSED, AND I CAN START JUDGING THESE PICTURES!

IN THE MAKE-UP ROOM OF THE NEWSPAPER...
I'VE ALREADY RECEIVED POLICE PERMISSION TO RUN THIS SHOT ON OUR FRONT PAGE, TED! WE'LL SPREAD THE FACES OF THESE CROOKS ALL OVER BIG TOWN!
RIGHT, I'LL PLAY IT UP BIG!

AT THAT MOMENT, IN THE STREET OUTSIDE...
I--I TOOK A RISK COMING TO THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS BUILDING--BUT I SEEM TO BE IN THE CLEAR...AND I'VE GOT TO FIND OUT IF MY PICTURE REACHED STEVE WILSON IN TIME!

SHORTLY, IN STEVE'S OFFICE..
WHAT? YOU'RE THE ONE WHO OWNS THAT MYSTERIOUS BRIEF CASE THAT CAME IN HERE?
I-I GUESS I'D BETTER EXPLAIN, MISS! I'VE BEEN IN AWFUL TROUBLE...

"...TROUBLE WHICH BEGAN ALMOST FROM THE VERY MOMENT THAT I DECIDED TO ENTER YOUR PRIZE-PHOTO CONTEST!"
NO PHOTOGRAPHER HAS BEEN ABLE TO CAPTURE THE FULL BEAUTY OF THE NEW GLASS SKYSCRAPER! IF I CAN, MY PICTURE SHOULD WIN A PRIZE!

"IT WAS AFTER I WENT HOME AND DEVELOPED THE PICTURE, THAT THE MYSTERIOUS THING BEGAN TO HAPPEN..."

THE PICTURE TURNED OUT PRETTY GOOD--HUH? STRANGE THE WAY THOSE THREE MEN ARE STANDING ACROSS THE STREET LOOKING UP HERE--I NEVER SAW ANY OF THEM AROUND THIS NEIGHBORHOOD BEFORE...

"LATER, WHEN I LEFT MY APARTMENT WITH THE PICTURE..."

T-THOSE SAME MEN ARE FOLLOWING ME!

SW

"I ACTED ON IMPULSE! A CAB ROLLED DOWN THE STREET, I HAILED IT AND JUMPED IN!"

THEY GOT INTO THAT BLACK CAR THAT WAS STANDING AT THE CURB--AND THEY'RE COMING AFTER ME!

FASTER, DRIVER! HURRY!

SW

"THE NEXT HOUR WAS A NIGHTMARE! I CHANGED FROM CAB TO CAB, DASHED INTO BUILDINGS, BEFORE I FINALLY SHOOK OFF MY PURSUERS! BUT THEN..."

HOTEL

M-MY BRIEF CASE--I'VE LOST IT! WITH MY PRECIOUS PRIZE PICTURE IN IT! I--I MUST HAVE DROPPED IT SOMEWHERE IN THE EXCITEMENT...

WELCOME

DAIRY FARM

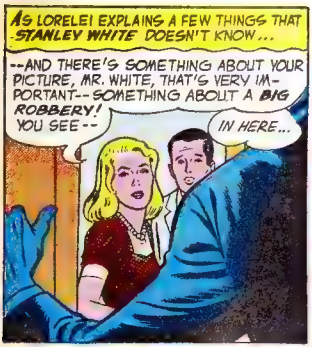
"I WAS AFRAID TO GO HOME! I HID OUT IN A HOTEL AND IT WAS THERE I DECIDED WHAT I HAD TO DO..."

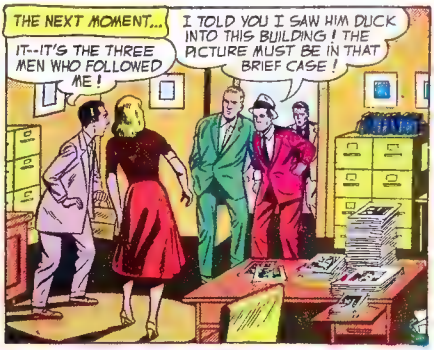
YES, MISS KILBOURNE! I PHONED IN THAT NOTICE TO THE ***LOST-AND-FOUND***--BECAUSE I KNEW THAT THE PICTURE HAD TO BE IN THIS OFFICE BEFORE NOON TODAY--ACCORDING TO THE CONTEST RULES! I HOPED SOMEONE WOULD FIND IT AND TURN IT IN!

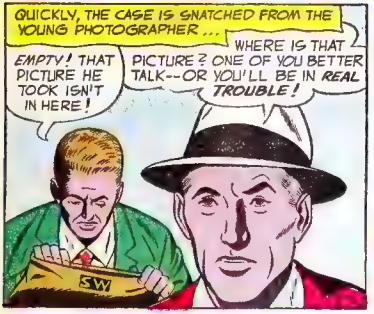
IS THIS YOUR BRIEF CASE, MR.--?

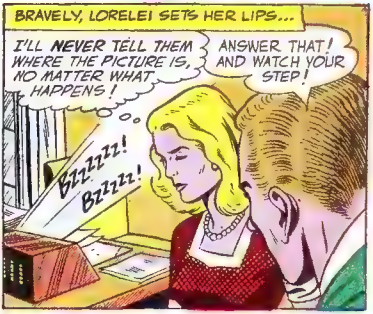
STANLEY WHITE IS MY NAME! YES, YES, THAT'S IT--WITH MY INITIALS--***S.W.***! THANK GOODNESS--MY IDEA WORKED!

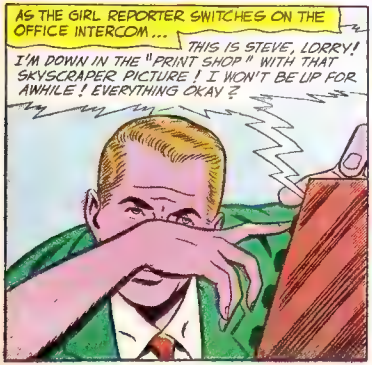
SW


AS LORELEI EXPLAINS A FEW THINGS THAT STANLEY WHITE DOESN'T KNOW...
--AND THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR PICTURE, MR. WHITE, THAT'S VERY IMPORTANT--SOMETHING ABOUT A BIG ROBBERY! YOU SEE--
IN HERE...

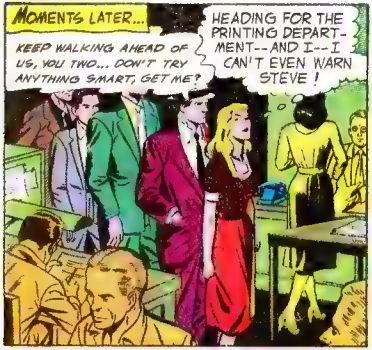

THE NEXT MOMENT...
IT--IT'S THE THREE MEN WHO FOLLOWED ME!
I TOLD YOU I SAW HIM DUCK INTO THIS BUILDING! THE PICTURE MUST BE IN THAT BRIEF CASE!

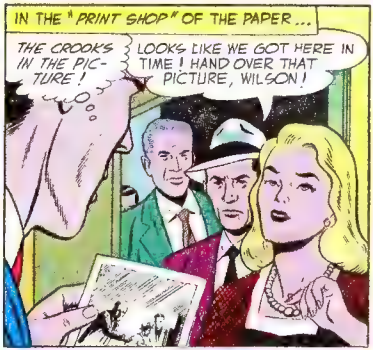

QUICKLY, THE CASE IS SNATCHED FROM THE YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER...
EMPTY! THAT PICTURE HE TOOK ISN'T IN HERE!
WHERE IS THAT PICTURE? ONE OF YOU BETTER TALK--OR YOU'LL BE IN REAL TROUBLE!

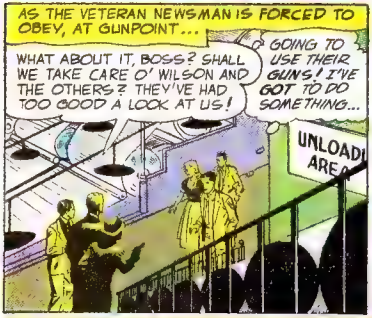

BRAVELY, LORELEI SETS HER LIPS...
I'LL NEVER TELL THEM WHERE THE PICTURE IS, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS!
ANSWER THAT! AND WATCH YOUR STEP!
BZZZZ!
BZZZZ!

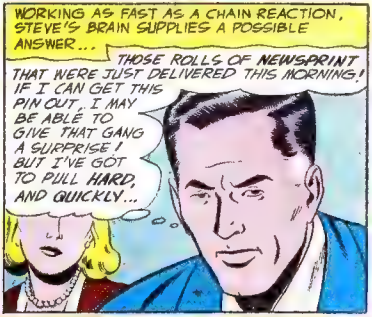

AS THE GIRL REPORTER SWITCHES ON THE OFFICE INTERCOM...
THIS IS STEVE, LORRY! I'M DOWN IN THE "PRINT SHOP" WITH THAT SKYSCRAPER PICTURE! I WON'T BE UP FOR AWHILE! EVERYTHING OKAY?

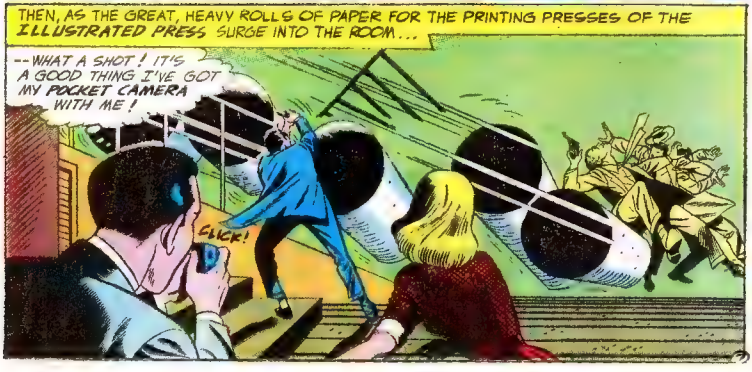
TELL HIM OKAY...
--OKAY, STEVE--
GOSH! STEVE UNWITTINGLY REVEALED WHERE THE PICTURE IS!


MOMENTS LATER...
KEEP WALKING AHEAD OF US, YOU TWO... DON'T TRY ANYTHING SMART, GET ME?
HEADING FOR THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT--AND I--I CAN'T EVEN WARN STEVE!


IN THE "PRINT SHOP" OF THE PAPER...
THE CROOKS IN THE PICTURE!
LOOKS LIKE WE GOT HERE IN TIME! HAND OVER THAT PICTURE, WILSON!


AS THE VETERAN NEWSMAN IS FORCED TO OBEY, AT GUNPOINT...
WHAT ABOUT IT, BOSS? SHALL WE TAKE CARE O' WILSON AND THE OTHERS? THEY'VE HAD TOO GOOD A LOOK AT US!
GOING TO USE THEIR GUNS! I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING...
UNLOADI
ARE

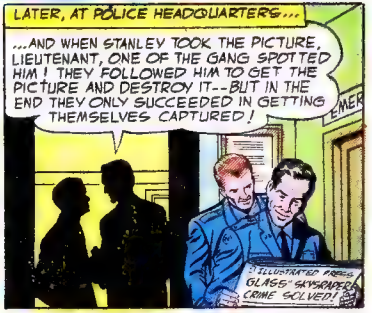

WORKING AS FAST AS A CHAIN REACTION, STEVE'S BRAIN SUPPLIES A POSSIBLE ANSWER...
THOSE ROLLS OF NEWSPRINT THAT WERE JUST DELIVERED THIS MORNING!
IF I CAN GET THIS PIN OUT, I MAY BE ABLE TO GIVE THAT GANG A SURPRISE! BUT I'VE GOT TO PULL HARD, AND QUICKLY...

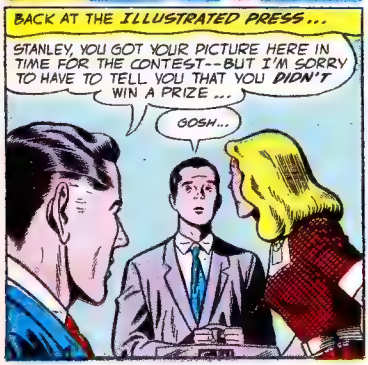

THEN, AS THE GREAT, HEAVY ROLLS OF PAPER FOR THE PRINTING PRESSES OF THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS SURGE INTO THE ROOM...
--WHAT A SHOT! IT'S A GOOD THING I'VE GOT MY POCKET CAMERA WITH ME!
CLICK!

MOMENTS LATER, AS THE DOORS TO THE "PRINT SHOP" ARE THROWN OPEN...
YOU MEN-- GET YOUR HANDS UP, ALL OF YOU!
THE POLICE!

HANDCUFFS ARE QUICKLY SNAPPED ON THE CROOKS...
LOR-- ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
FINE--AND STEVE, THIS IS STANLEY WHITE--A YOUNG MAN WITH THE SAME INITIALS AS YOURS...

AS THE POLICE HERD THEIR PRISONERS OFF TO HEADQUARTERS...
WHEN LIEUTENANT GREGGORY HEARD YOU HAD THAT PICTURE HERE, HE FIGURED YOU MIGHT NEED SOME POLICE PROTECTION, MR. WILSON!
HE SURE FIGURED RIGHT! TELL HIM I'LL BE AROUND TO THANK HIM IN PERSON, SERGEANT...


LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
...AND WHEN STANLEY TOOK THE PICTURE, LIEUTENANT, ONE OF THE GANG SPOTTED HIM! THEY FOLLOWED HIM TO GET THE PICTURE AND DESTROY IT--BUT IN THE END THEY ONLY SUCCEEDED IN GETTING THEMSELVES CAPTURED!
ILLUSTRATED PRESS GLASS SKYSCRAPER CRIME SOLVED!


BACK AT THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS...
STANLEY, YOU GOT YOUR PICTURE HERE IN TIME FOR THE CONTEST--BUT I'M SORRY TO HAVE TO TELL YOU THAT YOU DIDN'T WIN A PRIZE...
GOSH...

HOWEVER, AS--ER--CONSOLATION PRIZE, I'M OFFERING YOU A JOB AS A NEWSPAPER PHOTOGRAPHER ON OUR PAPER! WHAT DO YOU SAY TO THAT?
WHY, MR. WILSON, THAT'S WONDERFUL! IT'S BETTER THAN ANYTHING I EVER DREAMED OF!
The End

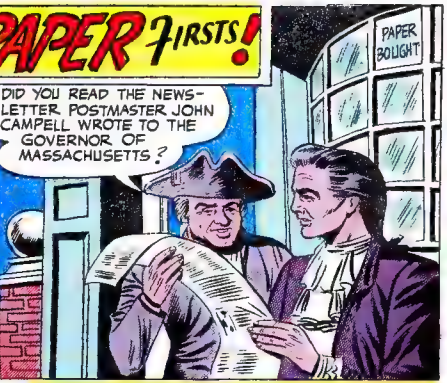
Binky in "The BEST PRESENT OF ALL!"

WHAT'S THE MATTER, ALLERGY? YOU LOOK AS IF YOU'VE LOST ALL YOUR CHRISTMAS CHEER.
I HAVE.
YOU ALL GAVE ME SUCH NICE PRESENTS FOR CHRISTMAS, AND I HAD HARDLY ANY MONEY TO GET REAL NICE THINGS FOR YOU. SO I GOTTA START MAKING MONEY FOR NEXT YEAR...
MAYBE YOU CAN... BUT DON'T THINK WE DIDN'T LIKE YOUR PRESENTS.
THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE YOU'RE OVERLOOKING, SON. DIDN'T YOU SEND SOME OF YOUR CHRISTMAS MONEY OVERSEAS FOR COLD AND HUNGRY BOYS AND GIRLS?
SURE, ALL THE GANG DID THAT, DAD.
"AND DIDN'T YOU SING CAROLS ON CHRISTMAS EVE AT THE GOLDEN AGE CLUB?"
"AND DIDN'T YOU SPEND A LOT OF TIME AND PART OF YOUR CHRISTMAS MONEY FIXING UP TOYS FOR THE KIDS IN THE HOSPITAL?"
SO, YOU SEE, YOU GAVE THE BEST THINGS ANYONE CAN--REAL THOUGHT FOR OTHER PEOPLE'S HAPPINESS. AT CHRISTMAS, OR ANY OTHER TIME, THIS IS THE MOST WELCOME PRESENT YOU CAN GIVE--AND THE ONE THAT LASTS LONGEST.
YOU SAID IT, DAD.

PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE ASSEMBLY, COORDINATING ORGANIZATION FOR NATIONAL HEALTH, WELFARE AND RECREATION AGENCIES OF THE U.S.

7 FAMOUS NEWSPAPER FIRSTS!

THE BOSTON **NEWS-LETTER** (1704) WAS THE FIRST AMERICAN NEWSPAPER TO WIN CONTINUOUS PUBLICATION. CONSISTING OF A SINGLE LEAF OF PAPER (*ABOUT 50 INCHES LONG AND 9 INCHES WIDE*), PRINTED ON BOTH SIDES, THE ENTIRE CONTENTS OF ONE ISSUE WOULD SCARCELY FILL TWO COLUMNS OF A MODERN NEWSPAPER...



THE FIRST PENNY PAPER PUBLISHED IN AMERICA, **THE *CENT*** MADE ITS INITIAL APPEARANCE IN PHILADELPHIA IN 1830, AND LASTED ONLY A FEW ISSUES. THREE YEARS LATER, THE FIRST SUCCESSFUL ONE-CENT PAPER, THE NEW YORK ***SUN***, APPEARED. IT SOLD SO WELL THAT WITHIN A FEW MONTHS IT HAD A GREATER CIRCULATION THAN ANY OTHER NEW YORK PAPER...

THE **SUN**

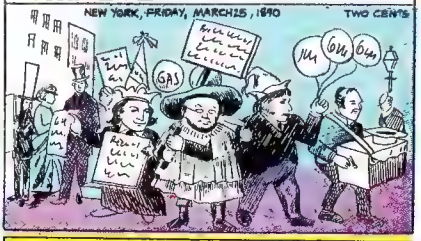
NUMBER 1) NEW YORK: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1833 (PRICE ONE PENN

MASTHEAD OF THE FIRST ISSUE OF THE NEW YORK ***SUN***...

THE NEW YORK ***EVENING TELEGRAM*** (1867) WAS THE FIRST PAPER TO FEATURE A CONTINUOUS SERIES OF CARTOONS. THE CARTOONS WERE PRINTED ON THE FIRST PAGE OF EACH FRIDAY'S EDITION AND DEALT WITH A TIMELY POLITICAL SITUATION OR PROMINENT PERSON IN THE NEWS...

THE EVENING TELEGRAM

NEW YORK, FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 1870 TWO CENTS



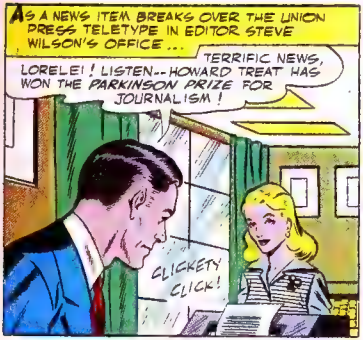
THE FIRST EXTENSIVE CABLE DISPATCH FROM OVERSEAS WAS SENT TO THE NEW YORK ***HERALD*** IN 1866 - AND TRANSMITTED THE SPEECH OF THE KING OF PRUSSIA ANNOUNCING THE END OF THE PRUSSIAN-AUSTRIAN WAR. THE CABLE-COST FOR THIS HISTORIC MESSAGE WAS $6500...

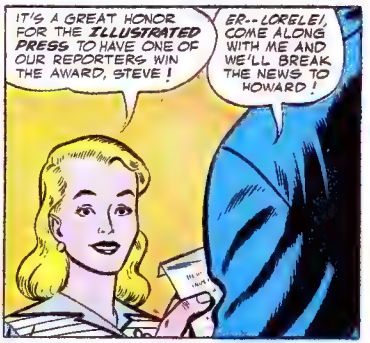
SCENE DEPICTING LAYING of TRANS-ATLANTIC CABLE...

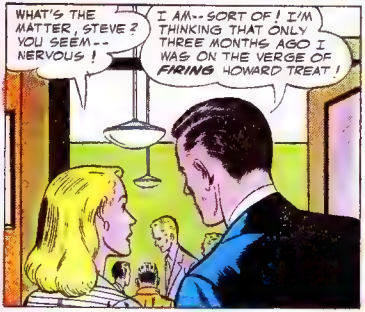
BIG TOWN
HE HAD WHITE HAIR...
THIN FACE...
DARK EYEBROWS!
LORELEI, WHEN THIS PORTRAIT IS COMPLETED, WE WILL KNOW THE IDENTITY OF OUR MYSTERY REPORTER!

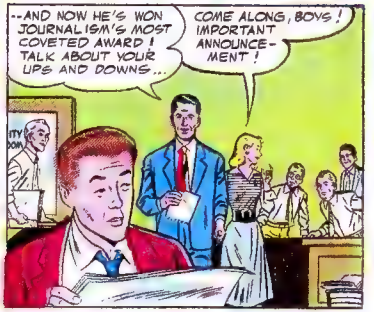
IT WAS A GREAT HONOR FOR EDITOR STEVE WILSON'S *ILLUSTRATED PRESS* WHEN A SERIES OF ARTICLES IN ITS PAGES WON THE COVETED *PARKINSON PRIZE* FOR JOURNALISM! BUT THE HONOR TURNED INTO A TANTALIZING RIDDLE WHEN IT WAS FOUND THAT *NO ONE ON THE NEWSPAPER KNEW THE IDENTITY OF THE MYSTERIOUS WRITER* OF THE SERIES! IT WAS AN EMERGENCY THAT CALLED FOR STEVE'S MIGHTIEST EFFORTS, TO FIND..

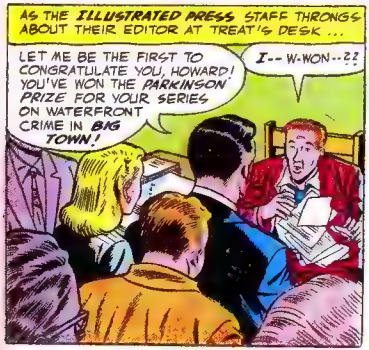
the MYSTERY REPORTER of the ILLUSTRATED PRESS!


AS A NEWS ITEM BREAKS OVER THE UNION PRESS TELETYPE IN EDITOR STEVE WILSON'S OFFICE ...
TERRIFIC NEWS, LORELE! ! LISTEN--HOWARD TREAT HAS WON THE PARKINSON PRIZE FOR JOURNALISM !
CLICKETY CLICK!


IT'S A GREAT HONOR FOR THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS TO HAVE ONE OF OUR REPORTERS WIN THE AWARD, STEVE !
ER--LORELEI, COME ALONG WITH ME AND WE'LL BREAK THE NEWS TO HOWARD !


WHAT'S THE MATTER, STEVE ? YOU SEEM--NERVOUS !
I AM--SORT OF ! I'M THINKING THAT ONLY THREE MONTHS AGO I WAS ON THE VERGE OF FIRING HOWARD TREAT !


--AND NOW HE'S WON JOURNALISM'S MOST COVETED AWARD ! TALK ABOUT YOUR UPS AND DOWNS...
COME ALONG, BOYS ! IMPORTANT ANNOUNCE-MENT !


AS THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS STAFF THRONGS ABOUT THEIR EDITOR AT TREAT'S DESK ...
LET ME BE THE FIRST TO CONGRATULATE YOU, HOWARD! YOU'VE WON THE PARKINSON PRIZE FOR YOUR SERIES ON WATERFRONT CRIME IN BIG TOWN!
I-- W-WON--??

FOR A LONG MOMENT SILENCE REIGNS AS ALL PRESENT WATCH THE STARTLED REPORTER ...
CHIEF, I--I CAN'T ACCEPT THAT AWARD! I DON'T DESERVE IT !

I ADMIT THAT YOUR WORK WAS PRETTY POOR UP TO ABOUT THREE MONTHS AGO--BUT YOU REDEEMED YOURSELF WITH THAT FINE WATERFRONT SERIES! YOU DESERVE THE AWARD ALL RIGHT!
I WISH I COULD AGREE WITH YOU...
MR. WILSON, MAY I TALK TO YOU IN YOUR OFFICE?
WELL... SURE, HOWARD! COME ALONG!
WHAT IN THE WORLD CAN HE WANT TO SAY TO ME?
WHEN STEVE AND HIS CONFIDENTIAL ASSISTANT, LORELEI KILBOURNE, ARE ALONE WITH HOWARD TREAT...
I SHOULD HAVE COME TO YOU LONG AGO! BUT NOW THIS PRIZE ANNOUNCEMENT IS FORCING MY HAND! I'VE GOT TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH...
SLOWLY, AS IF BY GREAT EFFORT, THE PRIZE-WINNING REPORTER BEGINS TO SPEAK...
I DIDN'T WRITE THOSE WATERFRONT ARTICLES-- EVEN THOUGH MY NAME WAS SIGNED TO THEM! WHAT'S MORE, I DON'T KNOW WHO DID WRITE THEM!
"I'M GOING TO TELL YOU EVERYTHING, JUST AS IT HAPPENED! YOU REMEMBER WHEN YOU GAVE ME THE ASSIGNMENT BACK IN MARCH..."
...AND STARTING TODAY, HOWARD, I WANT YOU TO INVESTIGATE CRIME ON THE WATERFRONT! IT'S A BIG JOB AND I EXPECT SOME FRONT-PAGE STORIES FROM YOU!
I'LL DO MY BEST, MR. WILSON!
"BUT APPARENTLY MY BEST WASN'T GOOD ENOUGH, FOR THE NEXT MORNING, AS I WALKED TO MY DESK..."
I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO UNCOVER A THING ON WATERFRONT CRIME! I'M A FAILURE AS A REPORTER-- MR. WILSON WOULD BE JUSTIFIED IN FIRING ME! I--HUH? WHAT'S THAT IN MY TYPEWRITER?

"I PULLED THE SHEETS FROM THE MACHINE AND LOOKED THROUGH THEM INCREDULOUSLY..."

W-WHY, THIS IS A LEAD-OFF STORY ON CRIME ON THE WATERFRONT--THE STORY I WAS SUPPOSED TO DO! BUT HOW DID IT GET HERE? WHO WROTE IT?

"SPELLBOUND, I READ THROUGH THE ARTICLE. IT WAS FULL OF SOLID REPORTING AND EXCELLENT WRITING..."

"...and onto the wharves of BIG TOWN RIVER each year come $50,000,000 in cargo from ports all over the world!"

"...and each year an unofficial "tax" is put on the cargo by some dock workers who STEAL $5,000,000 worth of the arriving goods!"

GRAB THE SACK OF COFFEE, JOE!

COFF...

"...most of the dock workers are honest, but they can't fight the leader of the underworld mob who has taken charge..."

I SAID I DON'T WANT THAT GUY HERE! I DON'T LIKE HIM!

BEAT IT--AND DON'T SHOW YOUR MUG AROUND HERE AGAIN, GET ME?

S-SURE! I CAN TAKE A HINT!

"...and my next article will delve further into the mess on our waterfront..."

"IT WAS PERFECT! IT WAS JUST THE JOB I SHOULD HAVE DONE! I SAT AT MY DESK STUNNED..."

WHAT SHALL I DO? I CAN'T SUBMIT THIS AS MY ARTICLE WHEN I DIDN'T WRITE A WORD OF IT! YET IT'S SO GOOD I...

COPY...

CITY ROOM

"SUDDENLY, AS I SAT THERE UNCERTAINLY, THE ARTICLE WAS SNATCHED FROM ME BY A PASSING COPY BOY..."

OKAY, MR. TREAT, I'LL TAKE THIS RIGHT DOWN TO THE PRESS ROOM!

UHH...

"THAT'S HOW IT STARTED! THE ARTICLE WAS PRINTED--AND CREATED A SENSATION!"

SAY! HAVE YOU READ THIS GREAT ARTICLE ON **WATERFRONT CRIME?**

EVERYBODY'S READING THAT ARTICLE--BUT I STILL DON'T KNOW WHO WROTE IT!

"THE ARTICLE HAD PROMISED A FOLLOW-UP AND SURE ENOUGH THE NEXT MORNING..."

AGAIN--IN MY TYPEWRITER--**TYPED ON MY MACHINE**--THE NEXT INSTALLMENT IN THE WATERFRONT SERIES! I'VE **GOT** TO FIND OUT WHO'S DOING THIS! I CAN'T GO ON THIS WAY!

"I FIGURED IT MUST HAVE BEEN SOMEONE ON THE PAPER, SOMECNE WHO KNEW I HAD BEEN GIVEN THE ASSIGNMENT! I QUERIED OTHER REPORTERS..."

NO... I'VE NOT BEEN PUTTING ANY MATERIAL ON YOUR DESK, HOWARD! WHY?

ER--IT'S NOT IMPORTANT, FRED.

NO ONE WILL ADMIT KNOWING ANYTHING ABOUT IT!

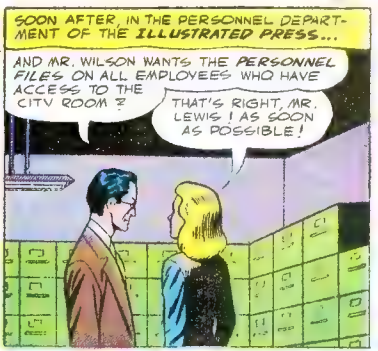
"YOU CAN GUESS THE REST, MR. WILSON! THE **WHOLE SERIES** WAS WRITTEN BY A **MYSTERY REPORTER!** I TRIED TO DISCOVER HIS IDENTITY..."

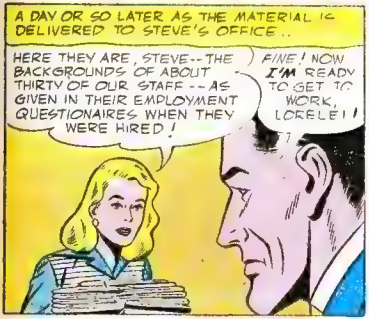
BUT I NEVER COULD! AND NOW **I'VE** WON THE **PARKINSON PRIZE!**

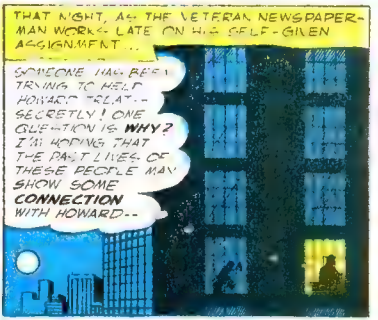
AMAZING! OF COURSE, IT'S OUR DUTY TO NOTIFY THE PARKINSON COMMITTEE THAT YOU DIDN'T WRITE THE SERIES, HOWARD..

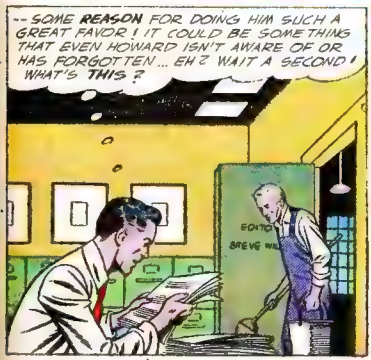
BUT BEFORE WE DO, **I'D** LIKE TO TAKE A CRACK AT FINDING OUT WHO THE PHANTOM WRITER IS ON OUR NEWSPAPER! THEN WE COULD SUPPLY THE COMMITTEE WITH THE CORRECT MAN TO HONOR!

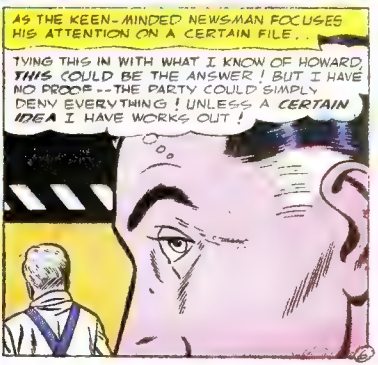
SHORTLY, AFTER HOWARD TREAT HAS GONE...
LORELEI, YOU AND I ARE GOING TO TURN REPORTERS AGAIN FOR A FEW DAYS! NOW HERE'S WHAT I WANT YOU TO DO...


SOON AFTER, IN THE PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT OF THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS...
AND MR. WILSON WANTS THE PERSONNEL FILES ON ALL EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE ACCESS TO THE CITY ROOM?
THAT'S RIGHT, MR. LEWIS! AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!


A DAY OR SO LATER AS THE MATERIAL IS DELIVERED TO STEVE'S OFFICE..
HERE THEY ARE, STEVE--THE BACKGROUNDS OF ABOUT THIRTY OF OUR STAFF--AS GIVEN IN THEIR EMPLOYMENT QUESTIONAIRES WHEN THEY WERE HIRED!
FINE! NOW I'M READY TO GET TO WORK, LORELEI!


THAT NIGHT, AS THE VETERAN NEWSPAPERMAN WORKS LATE ON HIS SELF-GIVEN ASSIGNMENT..
SOMEONE HAS BEEN TRYING TO HELP HOWARD TREAT--SECRETLY! ONE QUESTION IS WHY? I'M HOPING THAT THE PAST LIVES OF THESE PEOPLE MAY SHOW SOME CONNECTION WITH HOWARD--


--SOME REASON FOR DOING HIM SUCH A GREAT FAVOR! IT COULD BE SOMETHING THAT EVEN HOWARD ISN'T AWARE OF OR HAS FORGOTTEN... EH? WAIT A SECOND! WHAT'S THIS?


AS THE KEEN-MINDED NEWSMAN FOCUSES HIS ATTENTION ON A CERTAIN FILE..
TYING THIS IN WITH WHAT I KNOW OF HOWARD, THIS COULD BE THE ANSWER! BUT I HAVE NO PROOF--THE PARTY COULD SIMPLY DENY EVERYTHING! UNLESS A CERTAIN IDEA I HAVE WORKS OUT!

THE NEXT MORNING, STEVE AND LORELEI DRIVE TO THE WATERFRONT...

WE'VE GOT TO TRY AND LOCATE ANYONE WHO HAS SEEN OR TALKED TO THE ***MYSTERY REPORTER!*** WE'LL SPLIT UP AND START ASKING QUESTIONS!

SHIPPI

SOON, AS THE INTREPID NEWSHAWK CONTACTS AN OLD FRIEND...

YEP! I DID NOTICE A CERTAIN MAN, MISTER WILSON! HE WAS TALL AND THIN AND KIND OF STOOPED OVER A BIT...

THANKS A LOT, PARROW! THAT MAY HELP!

LORELEI ALSO HAS FRIENDS ON THE WATERFRONT...

...AND THIS MAN HAD VERY BLACK EYEBROWS, MISS KILBOURNE-- THAT'S WHAT I NOTICED ABOUT HIM MOST...

AND YOU SAW HIM SEVERAL TIMES, HENRY?

IN THE POPULAR ***RIVERFRONT RESTAURANT...***

I CAN TELL YOU ONE OTHER THING ABOUT THAT FELLOW, STEVE--HE'S GOT WHITE HAIR! I SAW HIM ONCE WITH HIS HAT OFF.

UH-HUH! THANKS, PETE!

LATER, AFTER THE TWO NEWSGATHERS HAVE POOLED THEIR NOTES, AND LORELEI HAS RETURNED TO THE OFFICE ALONE...

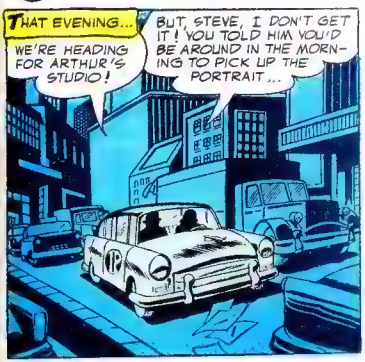
STEVE SAYS HE SUSPECTS SOMEONE IN OUR BUILDING! BUT HE REFUSES TO SAY ***WHO!*** I WONDER WHAT HE'S UP TO?

CITY ROO

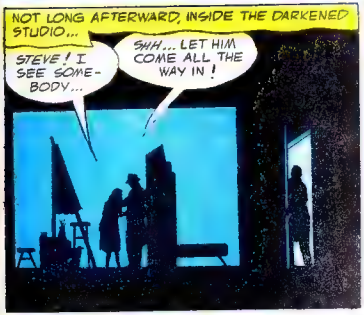
MEANWHILE, AT THE STUDIO OF A FAMOUS ***BIG TOWN*** ARTIST...

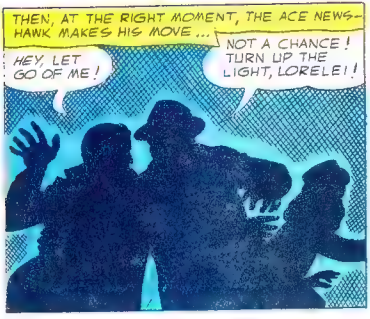
SURE, I CAN DO A ***PORTRAIT*** FOR YOU BASED ON THESE NOTES, STEVE! GLAD TO DO IT! I'LL FINISH IT TONIGHT...

FINE, ARTHUR! I'LL PICK IT UP IN THE MORNING!


THAT EVENING...
WE'RE HEADING FOR ARTHUR'S STUDIO!
BUT, STEVE, I DON'T GET IT! YOU TOLD HIM YOU'D BE AROUND IN THE MORNING TO PICK UP THE PORTRAIT...

SURE--AND I ALSO LET IT BE KNOWN AROUND THE OFFICE WHAT WE WERE DOING! I'M SETTING A TRAP, LORELEI--AND TOMORROW MORNING MAY BE TOO LATE!
KROSS BUILDING


NOT LONG AFTERWARD, INSIDE THE DARKENED STUDIO...
STEVE! I SEE SOMEBODY...
SHH... LET HIM COME ALL THE WAY IN!


THEN, AT THE RIGHT MOMENT, THE ACE NEWS-HAWK MAKES HIS MOVE...
HEY, LET GO OF ME!
NOT A CHANCE! TURN UP THE LIGHT, LORELEI!

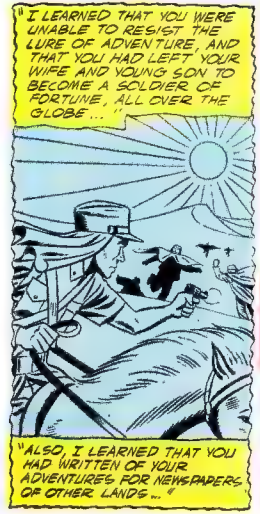
THE NEXT INSTANT...
CHARLES--OUR CITY ROOM PORTER! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WHY--ER--SOMEONE--THE MYSTERY REPORTER--SENT ME HERE TO GET THE PICTURE--

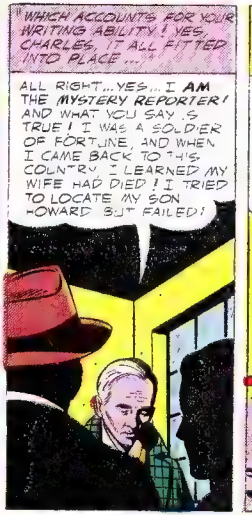
SO THE MYSTERY REPORTER SENT YOU, EH, CHARLES! AND NO DOUBT YOU PROMISED NOT TO REVEAL HIS IDENTITY!
YES! THAT'S RIGHT, MR. WILSON!

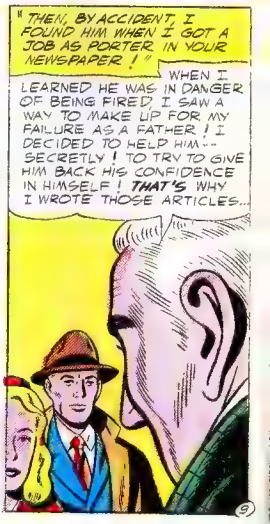
THEN, AS STEVE PULLS THE CURTAIN CORD NEAR HIM...
YOU ARE THE MYSTERY REPORTER, CHARLES GORT! NO USE TO DENY IT--I CAN TELL YOU A LOT MORE ABOUT YOURSELF!

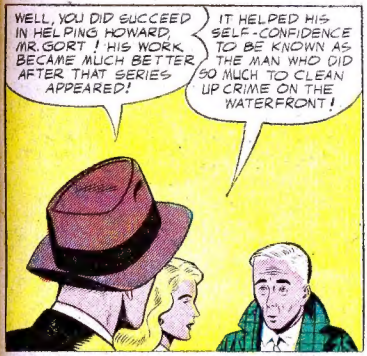
FOR EXAMPLE--YOU ARE THE FATHER OF HOWARD TREAT, ALTHOUGH HOWARD NEVER EVEN KNEW YOU!
(GASP!) HOW DID YOU LEARN THAT?

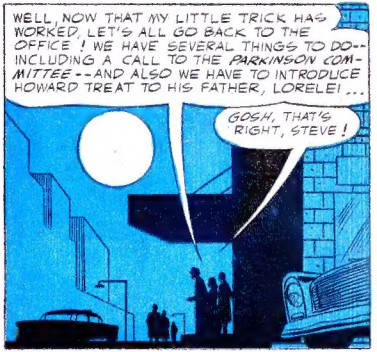
IT WASN'T TOO DIFFICULT--USING OUR PERSONNEL FILES AS LEADS! I LEARNED THAT HOWARD'S MIDDLE NAME WAS GORT! FROM THERE, THINGS BEGAN TO FIT INTO PLACE...

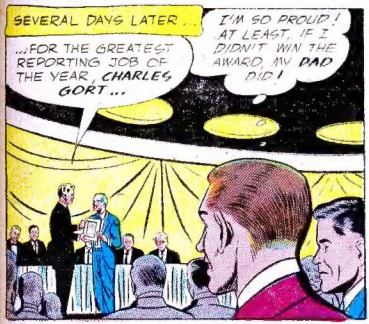

"I LEARNED THAT YOU WERE UNABLE TO RESIST THE LURE OF ADVENTURE, AND THAT YOU HAD LEFT YOUR WIFE AND YOUNG SON TO BECOME A SOLDIER OF FORTUNE, ALL OVER THE GLOBE..."
"ALSO, I LEARNED THAT YOU HAD WRITTEN OF YOUR ADVENTURES FOR NEWSPAPERS OF OTHER LANDS..."

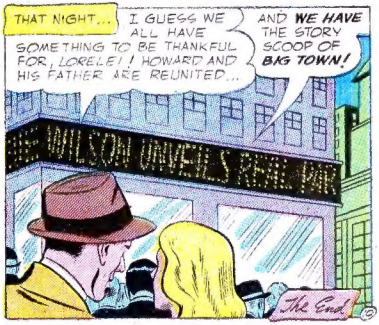

"WHICH ACCOUNTS FOR YOUR WRITING ABILITY! YES, CHARLES, IT ALL FITTED INTO PLACE..."
ALL RIGHT...YES...I AM THE MYSTERY REPORTER! AND WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE! I WAS A SOLDIER OF FORTUNE, AND WHEN I CAME BACK TO THIS COUNTRY I LEARNED MY WIFE HAD DIED! I TRIED TO LOCATE MY SON HOWARD BUT FAILED!


"THEN, BY ACCIDENT, I FOUND HIM WHEN I GOT A JOB AS PORTER IN YOUR NEWSPAPER!"
WHEN I LEARNED HE WAS IN DANGER OF BEING FIRED I SAW A WAY TO MAKE UP FOR MY FAILURE AS A FATHER! I DECIDED TO HELP HIM--SECRETLY! TO TRY TO GIVE HIM BACK HIS CONFIDENCE IN HIMSELF! THAT'S WHY I WROTE THOSE ARTICLES...


WELL, YOU DID SUCCEED IN HELPING HOWARD, MR. GORT ! HIS WORK BECAME MUCH BETTER AFTER THAT SERIES APPEARED!
IT HELPED HIS SELF-CONFIDENCE TO BE KNOWN AS THE MAN WHO DID SO MUCH TO CLEAN UP CRIME ON THE WATERFRONT !


WELL, NOW THAT MY LITTLE TRICK HAS WORKED, LET'S ALL GO BACK TO THE OFFICE ! WE HAVE SEVERAL THINGS TO DO-- INCLUDING A CALL TO THE PARKINSON COMMITTEE--AND ALSO WE HAVE TO INTRODUCE HOWARD TREAT TO HIS FATHER, LORELEI ...
GOSH, THAT'S RIGHT, STEVE !


SEVERAL DAYS LATER ...
...FOR THE GREATEST REPORTING JOB OF THE YEAR, CHARLES GORT ...
I'M SO PROUD ! AT LEAST, IF I DIDN'T WIN THE AWARD MY DAD DID !


THAT NIGHT...
I GUESS WE ALL HAVE SOMETHING TO BE THANKFUL FOR, LORELEI ! HOWARD AND HIS FATHER ARE REUNITED...
AND WE HAVE THE STORY SCOOP OF BIG TOWN!
WILSON UNVEILS REAL PAR
The End

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GET WILD! ROOT CREAM-OIL, CHARLIE!

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TWO DAYS LATER—

GET WILDROOT CREAM-OIL, CHARLIE!!

CHUCKLES—THAT'S THE 27-MILLIONTH TIME!!—OH, IT'S WORKIN' ON HIS BRAIN, ALL RIGHT!!

CRASH!!

THEY DIDN'T RESIST!!

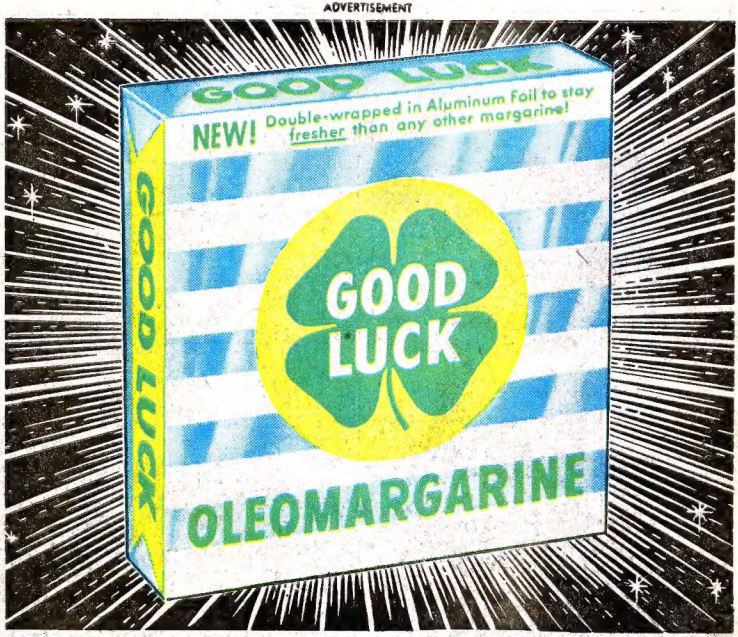
SOMETHING STUPEFIED THEM!!

I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT!!—I'VE HAD A MOST ENJOYABLE TIME!!—EXCUSE ME FOR PRIMPING UP!!—I MUST ATTEND THE SYMPHONY CONCERT!!

I LOVE THE NEXT PART, WHICH GOES "IT KEEPS YOUR HAIR IN TRIM-MED... IT'S NON-ALCOHOLIC CHARLIE-TA DUM DEE DUM—MADE WITH SOOTHING LANOLIN!!"

GET WILDROOT CREAM-OIL, CHARLIE!!

WILDROOT CREAM-OIL



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Bright-Plated Trigger . . . Checkered Stock!

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